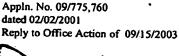
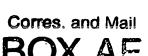
Appln. No. 09/775,760 dated 02/02/2001





RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.x16 **EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP**

ENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

09/775,760

Confirmation No. 5787

Applicant (s)

Mallon et. al.

February 2, 2001

Filed

RECEIVED

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DEC 0 4 2003

Examiner

Devesh Khare

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Title

Method of Preparing Modified Cellulose Ether

Docket No.

UC 17795-2

Customer No.

35503

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL WITH SUFFICIENT POSTAGE IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:

> November 26, 2003 DATE OF DEPOSIT

- ` Abby Doyle

SIGNATURE OF PERSON SIGNING CERTIFICATE

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO FINAL REJECTION

In response to the Final Rejection dated September 15, 2003, rejecting Claims 33-51, please reconsider the above-identified application in view of the following remarks.

Claims 33-55 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Warzecha et al. (DE1668347) in view of Takahashi et al. (JP 1-149801) of record. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Applicants submit that the somewhat lengthy claims 33 and 50 as well as the complex and sometimes unclear English translations of the German document Warzecha et al. and of the Japanese document

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